

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

LESLIE SUMMERS,

Plaintiff,

vs.

No. CV 19-00476 JCH/KBM

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,

Defendant.

**ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the Motion for Appointment of Counsel filed by Plaintiff Leslie Summers (Doc. 6). The Court will deny the Motion. There is no right to appointment of counsel in a civil rights case. Instead, the decision whether to request assistance of counsel rests in the sound discretion of the Court. *Beaudry v. Corrections Corp. of America*, 331 F.3d 1164, 1169 (10th Cir.2003); *MacCuish v. United States*, 844 F.2d 733, 735 (10th Cir.1988). In determining whether to appoint counsel, the district court should consider the merits of the litigant's claims, the nature and complexity of the factual and legal issues, and the litigant's ability to investigate the facts and to present his claims. *Hill v. SmithKline Beecham Corp.*, 393 F.3d 1111, 1115 (10th Cir.2004). The Court has reviewed the complaint and subsequent filings in light of the foregoing factors. Plaintiff appears to understand the issues in the case and to be representing himself in an intelligent and capable manner. *See Lucero v. Gunter*, 52 F.3d 874, 878 (10th Cir. 1995). Accordingly, the Court will deny the Motion for Appointment of Counsel.

**IT IS ORDERED** that the Motion for Appointment of Counsel filed by Plaintiff Leslie Summers (Doc. 6) is **DENIED**.

  
Karen B. Mohr  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE